

From: Don (038) Mary Felice
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 3:35pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am a recently retired Software Engineer who has been in the computer industry since 1960. I am amazed at the fact that the government has continued with this suit against Microsoft. MS has not harmed users. Competitors have a problem with MS because they have not built "a better mousetrap". MS has introduced standards that make the user's life so much easier. Does anyone remember how difficult it was to install a product pre MS? MS came from behind with a Word Processor and then made better innovations so that they outstripped WordPerfect just as WordPerfect had outstripped Word Star previously. This is the American way. MS did not have the first Internet Browser but they built a better product. Why are they being penalized for that? Can you even begin to calculate how the economy has advanced because of MS? Can you even begin to calculate how many new jobs there in the entire computer industry because of MS. Would there be such a proliferation of PCs in homes and offices if MS had not been in the game.

The government's job is to protect consumers not competitors. Let Sun, AOL and they rest of them make a better product. Then they will not have to worry about MS. It should not be the government's job to help the competition.

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